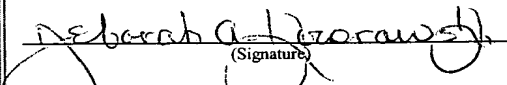




Application Serial No. 09/900,927

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Repp et al.
Title: QUILTING METHOD AND
SYSTEM
Appl. No.: 09/900,927
Filing Date: 07/09/2001
Examiner: Salvatore, Lynda M.
Art Unit: 1771

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| CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING | |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service's "Express Mail Post Office To Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. | |
| EL 979074191 US (Express Mail Label Number) | December 29, 2003 (Date of Deposit) |
| Deborah A. Kocorowski (Printed Name) | |
|  (Signature) | |

Mail Stop **ISSUE FEE**
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

ISSUE FEE TRANSMITTAL

The Notice of Allowance and Issue Fee Due was mailed on October 7, 2003.

Enclosed is the Issue Fee Transmittal Form PTOL-85(B) with payment in the form of a check (No. 13069) in the total amount of \$971.00 for payment of the Issue Fee (\$665.00), the Publication Fee (\$300.00) and two (2) additional copies of the issued utility patent (\$6.00).

Expedited Attention

A Petition to Advance Examination was granted in the Present Application on February 5, 2002. The Applicants request expedited attention under 37 C.F.R. § 1.102 and priority for printing under M.P.E.P. § 1309.

Amendment to Specification Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.78

On October 17, 2003, the Applicants filed a Request for Amendment Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 and Request for Corrected Filing Receipt ("Rule 312 Request"). The Rule 312 Request is pending. The pending Rule 312 Request was filed before payment of the issue fee. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.312 and M.P.E.P. § 714.16.

The pending Rule 312 Request contains a proposed amendment to the specification of the Present Application to include a specific reference and claim of priority (as a divisional application) to the Parent Application (Serial No. 09/521,810), which claim of priority was made when the Present Application was filed on July 9, 2001, to bring the Present Application into full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.78.

On December 4, 2003, the Applicants filed a Petition to Accept An Unintentionally Delayed Claim of Priority Under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21 and for Corrected Filing Receipt under 37 C.F.R. § 1.78 ("Petition"). The Petition included a copy of the Rule 312 Request that had been filed on October 17, 2003. The Petition has been filed to ensure that the patent that will issue from the Present Application contains a specific reference and claim of priority to the Parent Application under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21. The Petition was filed prior to payment of the issue fee. The Applicants request the grant of the Petition and entry of the proposed amendment under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.78, as set forth in the pending Rule 312 Request or by Examiner's Amendment.

The Applicants have awaited the notification of the receipt and entry of the Rule 312 Request dated October 17, 2003 and the Petition dated December 4, 2003 in PAIR to pay the Issue Fee. The Applicants request expedited attention to avoid further delay. It is the understanding of the Applicants that the Present Application is available after mailing of the Notice of Allowance as necessary for entry of any amendment submitted under 37 C.F.R. § 1.312. See M.P.E.P. § 1306.03.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized by the Applicants (who hereby grant approval) to make any necessary amendment to the specification, such as a formal Examiner's Amendment under M.P.E.P. § 1302.04, to add the inadvertently omitted reference to the Parent Application (Serial No. 09/521,810) to bring the Present Application into full compliance with 35 U.S.C. §§ 120-21 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.78.

The Commissioner is also authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.18, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

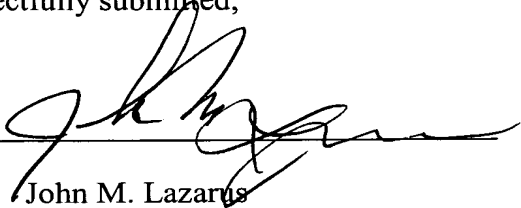
Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 06-1447.

Please direct all correspondence to the undersigned attorney at the address indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Date DECEMBER 29, 2003

By



John M. Lazarus
Attorney for the Applicants
Registration No. 48,367

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